SUMMARY OF PRECEDING CHAPTERS.

The mobilization call of August, 1914, comes to the little town of A---, in Normandy. With the contingent from Paris comes Gaspard, snail dealer in the Rue de la Gaite in the Montparnasse quarter, "with a nose like a hook and a face that would make a fish laugh." He is the life of the regiment. The regiment entrains for the front. The men believe themselves straight on the road to Berlin. As they near the front they have their first hint of the devastating effects of war; peasants in flight, the smoke of burning villages, the distant rumble of cannon. Misgivings beset them.

Suddenly they find themselves in the midst of war with all its terrors. They meet a crowd of wounded soldiers returning from the front, exhausted.

They meet a crowd of wounded soldiers returning from the front, exhausted, suffering pitifully. They pass through a field filled with the graves of the fallen. Shells begin to fall among them. They start to cross territory swept oy German fire. Their commander, Capt. Puche, is killed. Himself wounded Jespard bears his dying pal. iturette, off the field. Without having even seen the foe, Gaspard's first battle is over.

the fee, Gaspard's first battle is over.

Then come days of misery and suffering while a trainload of wounded soldiers, including Gaspard, are slowly taken to hospitals far from the fighting line. Gaspard is assigned to a hospital in a little town in the south of France. For him it is a new world. In the description of the nurses there is a striking picture of the devotion of the women of France.

Recovering from his wound, Gaspard is sent to the barracks at A.....

where he forms a queer friendship with a scholar, Prof. Mousse. Life in the barracks palls on him. He arranges to return to the front and secures three days leave of absence, which he spends in Paris. There he decides to marry

mother of his son and thus legalize the boy's position.

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VI .- Continued.

Re told them wonderful stories of him said that he had cried almost all night and had kept on saying: and as he practically never stopped talking his thirst was everlasting, and in fine spirits when his mother, his wife chance in life.

"You're late . . . you're going to get into trouble."

'Did I ask you for any information? Mind your own dammed business! His wife, however, had overheard the employee's remark. She became

Gaspard reassured her. "Didn't I tell you that I met a General? . . . Why, this leave is just like an excursion ticket: it can be extended for any number of days."

The women accompanied him through the gate and onto the platform, where the train was waiting. His mother took him in her arms and holding him close to her said in a trembling voice "Good-by, my big boy . . . good-by, my boy" . . . The old woman gooddid not go up to the train, for a special ticket costing two sous was required, and it had been decided

that she would wait with the boy while only his wife saw him safely in the train. He gave her a long, tender kiss and looked at her with all the pride of a newly married man. He was deeply moved himself, but seeing her worried look, he forced himself to smile and

"Don't worry, Bibiche . . . everything will be all right." When he reached the barracks fifty-

three hours later than the scheduled me the corporal exclaimed: "Well, my friend, there is something

in store for you! Gaspard assumed his most dignified

"Have I asked you any questions? Mind your own business and don't be so familiar. Who do you think you

The Adjutant came hurrying along. For two nights he had hardly been able to sleep for the thought of what he was going to say to the missing

Well, it's coming your way, all right, and you're on active service. coo! Court-martial and hard labor. that's what you'll get."

Gaspard was still very dignified. "I'll explain to the officers." The Lieutenant soon arrived. "Ah! ah! So here is the deserter

. . Well, what have you got to Gaspard replied with the same dig-

"I want to speak to the Captain." The Captain had been out at the front. He was a Parisian and a friend Puche. For these reasons Gaspard

had no fear of him. He lost his assurance, however, when he saw the officer, who gave him a very severe "Captain," he stammered, "a's all the fault of the Mairie. I explained to them all about my leave, but they wouldn't listen to me and told me it

was the only way I could straighten out my little boy's position . . . I couldn't go away with that thought in I wouldn't like to have them say that if I should be killed at the front . . . Now my boy's name is Gaspard, and if the Germans begin it over again twenty years from now, well, he'll be ready.

The rule is there and it must be followed," said the Captain. "I will have to have you arrested." "Captain," replied Gaspard, "I would

like to return to the front at once to fight the Germans." "At once!" said the Captain. "Well you know, the trains are not running every three minutes, like the trolley cars back home in Paris. There will

be no departure before ten days."

gendarme. We have received a re-

eround and saw this man coming along ugly flame could be seen in his eye. tont. behind me. He seemed to be trying to The trouble this time was a complaint "I continue to the trying to

will see."

This was final, and Gaspard hardly had time to shake Finds with Mousse, h

"And you seem to be proud of it too! Go on back to the prison, and quick!" cruits?

recovered his good spirits, but he be- an air of importance. recovered his good spirits, but he became deeply depressed as soon as he was locked up again. He came out of the prison, however, after twenty-four hours instead of forty-eight, as it had been decided to advance the hour of departure of the volunteers.

An air of importance.

He was in the first rank, marching wend elaves under their feet.

Suddenly they turned into a main road where a battery of artillery emerged unexpectedly from the mist, with horses, cannon and gun carriages. The horses were wading

departure of the volunteers. The Captain called him.

sleep. The men who had been with your equipment ready," he said. him said that he had cried aimost all Gaspard was overcome with joy and might and had kept on eaying:

"There is no justice any more! It's hardly left the office of the Captain when a note arrived from the Major. taking his thirst was everlasting, and throw you in jail just because you together with a report from the in-the last man."

they stopped for a drink with almost throw you in jail just because you together with a report from the in-the last man."

the beches if y together with a report from the in-the last man."

"Vive la Fra that the soldier Gaspard had been

"But how about equipping the re"But how about equipping the re"You heard what I said. Back to
But with Gaspard among the numBut with Gaspard among the n "You heard what I said. Back to forcement for a company at the front.

But with Gaspard among the numwhile talking to the Captain he had ber even so small a group assumed ber even so small a group assumed ber even so small a group assumed bardly be heard, so thick were the large transfer of the covered with fog and their steps could "No.

marched alongside of his friend won-dering that this little insignificant "You are going to start right away. town should suddenly assume so much are you glad?"

Importance to him, and he feared that were endeavoring to protect their

The Captain understood and appreciated by the said and shook hands down are the volunteers. You have been successful to him, and he said passed them on the road, for the with him warmly. "Come and see me when you get all are brave men, and true Frenchmen had covered Gaspard and his comrades every one of you."

"You told him that?"

"You bet I did!"

"And you seem to be proud of it too! loop and the barracks this time; it was no longer the imposing departure of a molonger the imposing the molonger the imposing departure of a molonger the imposing departure of a molonger the imposing the molonger the molonger the imposing the molonger the molonger the imposing the molonger the molonger the molonger the imposing the molonger the molonger the molonger the imposing the molonger the molonger

Are you glad?"

"Itight away! . . . Really! . . . At the railroad station an officer

The Captain understood and appreciated his sentiment and shock bunds law are understood and appreciated his sentiment and shock bunds law are understood and appreciated his sentiment and shock bunds law are understood and appreciated his sentiment and shock bunds law are understood and appreciated his sentiment and shock bunds law are understood and appreciated his sentiment and shock bunds law are understood and appreciated his sentiment and shock bunds law are understood and appreciated his sentiment and shock bunds law are understood and appreciated his sentiment and shock bunds law are understood and appreciate their side of his pal.

"This place is Gaspard.

At the railroad station an officer bund law was never going to see it again.

At the railroad station and officer bunds was understood and appreciate their bunds are understood and appreciate the railroad station and officer bunds are understood and appreciate the railroad station and officer bunds are understood and appreciate the railroad station and officer bunds are understood and appreciate the railroad station and officer bunds are understood and appreciate the railroad station and officer bunds are understood and appreciate the railroad station and officer bunds are understood and appreciate the railroad station and officer bunds are understood and appreciate the railroad station and officer bunds are understood and appreciate the railroad station and officer bunds are understood and appreciate the railroad station and officer bunds are understood and appreciate the railroad station and officer bunds are understood and appreciate the railroad station and officer bunds are understood and officer bunds are understood and the railroad station are understood and officer bunds are understood and officer This pleased Gaspard immensely. from head to foot with a thick layer of This pleased Gaspard immensely.
"We are all good pals," he said,
"And we're going to go out and get
the bothes if we have a set for the points of the points." replied Gaspard. the beches if we have to get killed to their saddles and the last man."

"Vive la France!" shouted the offler.

"Vive la France!" shouted the offler.

"It would be men repeated the words in little but contempt for these men who little next few minutes. When they each one equipped with a spade.

"I,--- Why, you fool, is that what you call the Rue d'la Gaite? . . . Don't you know there is only one in the world? What a fool! hink that's what they permit to vote!" A tremendous explosion interrupted tion of surprise mingled with terror.

Mousse had found a stack of hay the discussion. think that's what they permit to vote!" through pools of mud and water was on which he seated himself and Gaspard stretched himself out along-

"Possibly your Honor would like a again at close range, but Mousse, who

feather bed." ather bed."
"Don't worry," said another. "You'll time, remained motionless for a mo-

pped talking water could be heard

By Rene Benjamin--A Soldier of France

bout?"
and the other parts of their equipment
"I am not kicking. All I want is were caked with mud. They came about?" from a field where a long row of

"I haven't got anything to give you to eat. Would you like to chew my shoulder strape?"

If haven't got anything to give you crosses could be seen, each one surrounded by a red kept. The appearance of the men was so tracke that one "Gon ou! Don't try to imitate the could almost have believed that they

Adjutant."
"What did you say? . . . Just be careful, friend, because you know graves.

I don't give a dame if you know graves.

I don't give a damn if you are a And to Parisian.

It was what the French troops to say a word.

call a "marmite" and the English a opened up into a large pool filled with "This place is pretty damp," said man shell exploding only a few yards yellowish water. away. Gaspard was almost pleased to hear evidence of real warfare once sergeant. "What?" queried Gaspard.

soon get something better than that." ment, deeply shocked by the violence "Well, if you're hanging around to of the explosion. Up above, however, the men were see me worry you'll have a long wait,"

not in the slightest impressed. Many ing filtered water." ously.

the next few minutes. When they each one equipped with a spade, oped talking water could be heard. They formed in fours as best they

pool and Mousse did the same. Mousee was at a loss to know just what was happening to himself. He

no longer felt sleepy, as was his cus-the tom while living in the barracks, but his muscles seemed to be giving way and he felt certain that he was marching on to death. As a matter of fact there was enough there to give every man the same impression, with the Whitry weather, the fog and the deep leky mud which covered everything. Mud everywhere, on their clothes, their hands, their faces and, seemingly, al-When they entered another com-

Gaspard was deeply moved and could

"I'll your water bottles," ordered the

The other soldiers were greatly amused at Gaspard's surprise. A tall

bearded chap standing close to him

"Perhaps the Baron is used to drink-

"Go to thunder:" said Gaspard furi-

He dipped his water bottle into the

not refrein from uttering an exclama-

municating trench, which was to bring bent right up to the front line of intrenchments. Mousse felt that he was now going into a depth from which he would never emerge. Water was trickling through his boots and his feet were freezing. At his side all he ever heard from Gaspard was an occas onal oath. The trench in which they stopped

and over the top of which bullets were flying was no better than the one through which they had just passed. It was just as exposed, just as wet and just as muddy. The parapet, how-ever, was of store and there was a row of primitive benches out in the earth. The men sat down, their feet soaking in water, and remained silent for a while.

Gaspard was seated between Mouses and the big toothless soldier, who never lost a chance of making fun of his

Two men had been designated as lookouts. The others smoked and yawned on their seats, their back turned toward the enemy; some were chewing bread crusts which they had extricated from their bags with their muddy hands.
A shell fell near by, but no explo-

sice was heard and it was swallowed up by the earth. Gaspard was restin : his elbows on his knees, holding his head with both hands. Mousse, after manicuring his nais

with a penknife, took from his coat pocket a sheet of paper and a pencil and began to write feverishly.

Caspard looked at him and said: What are you doing? Writing? "Yes. It's for you."

Yes, listen that I'm not going to get out of this." "So I'm going to ask you, if you get

away, to put it in your pocket and deliver it at the address indicated in "In it for your sweetheart?" . . . It's for a friend."

ft's a little literary problem which im anxious to settle-in regard to at edition of Sophocies."

of what? Well, it wouldn't be of any interest Why not? I'm not a fool."

"I didn't say you were."
"Well all right. Good night!"

Before turning his back to his friend took the paper and slipped it in the a of his cap, where he already catried the photograph of his little boy. On the other side the touthless so der was sighing with his mouth full of bread.

"What worties me . . . is my house. . . ."
Another shell exploded. Gospard raised his head and asked his neigh-ber. "What's the trouble with your

"Yes, she's there, all right, but she's enly a woman. She doesn't know..." "Doesn't know what?"

ing, they crawled along; they found Turning to Mousse, Gaspard added:

(Continued on Ninth Page.)



Gaspard tried to stand up, but fell back with a cry of pain.

"I have always told you to use more things, damn fool things, but

ren leave. I told him. Of course I'm face leave.' and then he wanted to see my papers, and then he wanted to see the pour papers, and then he wanted to see my papers, and then he wanted to see the pour papers, and then he wanted to see my papers, and then he wanted to see the want a rail down the line wanted to see the my papers, and then wanted to see the want and then wanted to see the want and the pour papers and then wanted to see that he want to bell," said Mouse.

"Well us to paper wanted to see the want and the see the heads of the to see the want to bell," said Mouse.

"It not contain the wanted to bell," said Mouse.

"Well us to bell," said Mouse.

"Well us to paper wanted to see the want a replication to be some to be discontant and comparation to bell," said Mouse.

"It not contain the wanted to be some to be discontant and compared to be discontant and the papers and the post of the papers and the post of the papers and the post of the papers and the papers and the post of the papers and the papers and the papers and the papers and the pape

e no departure before ten days."

"You see, Captain, it was all for the side of the kid."

"Yes, but yours is not the only kid and there is a story about sendarme. We have received a report. What did you do not your way."

"Well, then, for the next two days of the start out start out start out start out start out tain, who hardly knew whether to graph on the floor.

"You're losing your wife and your shell."

"This was too much for the Captor on the floor.

"You're losing your wife and your shell."

"This thing will kill us."

"This thing will kill us."

"You're losing your wife and your shell."

"We are in for it this time." said for the name of a village. Only shell."

"You're losing your wife and your shell."

"We are in for it this time." said shaft would emerge, seemingly call-we going to eat."

"We are in for it this time." said shaft would emerge, seemingly call-we going to eat."

"What did you do not your way."

"What did she bring your cow to shaft would she bring your cow to shaft would she bring your cow to shaft would emerge."

"You're losing your wife and your she the name of a village. Only she went on. and fifty yards tain, who hardly knew whether to graph on the floor.

"You're losing your wife and your she went on. and fifty yards then man of a village. Only she went on. and fifty yards in forty-eight hours. Do you want to graph on the floor.

"You're losing your wife and your she went on. and fifty yards then man of a village. Only she went on. and fifty yards then man of a village. Only

eround and saw this man coming along lehind me. He seemed to be trying to catch up with me, so I kept on going right ahead faster and faster.

"I said to myself that if he thought him something on me I would make him row for it. He finally caught up with me, but was almost exhausted with me, but was almost exhausted with me, but was almost exhausted after his long run. He said. Why are left his man coming along that you were willing to get yourelf that you were willing to get yourself? All I have had to eat ugh false could them.

"I toid you so, said the Adjust that you were willing to get yourself? All I have had to eat ugh securit that the men's rifes and haversacks against Gaspard looked up quickly and felt that the men's rifes and haversacks against Gaspard tooked up quickly and felt that the men's rifes and haversacks against the thought of a my circumstances. Tell him to clear any circumstances. The don't want to see him again under any circumstances. Tell him to clear any circumstances. Tell him to clear any circumstances. The final you seem think that the men's rifes and haversacks that the men's rifes and haversacks any circumstances. The final you seem think the them's rife any circumstances. The deep. The don't want to see him again under any circumstances. The final you seem think the men's rife any circumstances. The final you seem think the men's rife any circumstances. The final

a gendarme. We have received a report. What did you do on your way home? Did you insult a gendarme?"

"Mesult him?" said Gaspard, "Oh. the life! Fill tell you. Captain, just what happened. You see, I was walks what happened. You see, I was walks along. All of a sudden I turned around and saw this man coming along. All of a sudden I turned around and saw this man coming along. The bit is a solder has gendarme?"

"We have received a regard to disperse the front." Then he called to propled:

"We are in for it this time," said cow."

"We are in for it this time," said the solder to propled:

"We are in for it this time," said the solder was quick to supply the information that the death and desolation. Not a living the solder was quick the said only see your son:

"If you don't, said one of the solder was quick that said only see your son!"

"If you don't, said one of the solder was quick that said only see your son!"

"If you don't, said dading, "Poor mother, if you was needed there. Everything was needed there the form the that the supply the information that the don't was needed there we going to eat."

"If you don't, said one of the solder was quick that said only seep them here another see only only son that you to do to your way you can help us out in the store, out to his assistant:

"If you don't, said dading, "Poor mother, if you son the we going to eat."

"If you don't, said deep them, yes . . but ing out for he next two days, the going to eat."

"If you don't, said one of the solder was quick there. Everything was needed there. Everything was needed there. Everything was needed there we going to eat."

"If you don't, said one of the soldent was quick there if you to to his assistant:

"If you don't, said one of the soldent was quick there if you to not to his assistant:

"If you don't, said dading, "Poor mother, if you son't supplied:

"What do you think."

"What did you to out to his assistant:

"We are in for it this time."

"If you don't, said one of the soldent was quick there. Everything was only su

with me, but was almost exhausted after his long run. He said, "Why ore your running? and I said, "Because I am in a hurry." Then he said, "Well, I just reached station with because f am late," said I. "But seem to like that I seemed to be trying to run away. Then he asked me if I was your run away. Then he said. The head of the men in front of the he had deviced way. Then he said who which no longer had anything to protect. They advanced a long the well and suddenly came to a long the wall the men in front of the solid."

"Unit is all the said. Who was a

"By the way," he added, "when are "We are in for it this time," said cow,"
we going to eat?"

The big toothicss soldier was quick could only see your son!"

"We are in for it this time," said cow,"

Gaspard, adding, "Poor mother, if you him for?"

mud covered platform of the little railroad station a big stout territorial who was on guard inquired whether they were new recruits."

"New recruits!"

Gaspard did not care much for the called out neverther would have done better to stay where you were."

"You poor fool!" said Gaspard.

"Where do you come from?"

"You poor fool!" said Gaspard.

"Where do you come from?"

"All right," said the other, "You'!

They shook hands laughingly, Gas
"Inter s spent the night in the prison and the lute I just simply said: 'I don't have he took it and if he smiled next morning when he came out he to ask you for your name because I I'd he real pleased if I thought it "Where do you come from?"

"All right," said the other. "You'l the shadow. the shadow.

They shook hands laughingly. Gas- we've had nothing to eat."

"I'm not talking about that. But but there was nothing left except tree trunks and dead branches, which, howlooked as if he hadn't had a minute's know it must be damn fool; nor do I could make him smile. find out for yourself."